

REMARKS

The amendment indicated herein has been made to update references to related applications. It is respectfully submitted that this amendment does not add any new matter to this application.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is believed that such contact would further the examination of the present application.

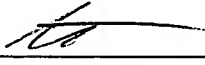
If there are any additional charges, please charge them to our Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP

Dated: May 20, 2004

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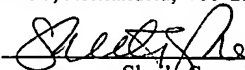
  
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Brian D. Hickman  
Reg. No. 35,894

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

on May 20, 2004

by



Sheila Severinghaus